FY05 Goal - CFL Pilot Program

Complete a pilot program to promote environmentally preferable Compact Fluorescent Bulbs

Implementing a pilot program to encourage the use of environmentally preferable Compact Fluorescent Bulbs (CFLs) was target number 22 on NASA Glenn Research Center's P2 (Pollution Prevention)/Sustainability Committee's FY05 Activities and Targets (Short Term) list.

With crude oil prices fluctuating, global warming concerns, and our cold Midwest winters and hot summers, energy conservation is critical. Saving energy saves money, fossil fuel drilling, and power plant emissions. Ohio's 23 coal-burning power plants annually emit hundreds of thousands of tons of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide and over 7,000 pounds of mercury. In 2003, Ohio's coal-burning power plants ranked #1 in the nation in releases of sulfur dioxide (1,175,903 tons) and nitrogen oxide (355,192 tons).

CFLs last about ten times longer and use 75-80% less energy than incandescent bulbs; and they don't burn your fingers. CFLs also save about \$50+ per bulb over incandescent in energy costs.

The P2 Committee gathered orders for CFLs as a pilot program a few months before, and during Earth Week in April 2005. Employees purchased a total of 260 bulbs during the two promotions. If most of these bulbs are installed and replace incandescent bulbs, it will reduce power use (and, so, power production) and emissions in our local communities for years to come.

While promoting the use of CFLs, the P2/Committee provided awareness of energy conservation and the impacts of energy production. Glenn employees may spread the word in their communities about the benefits of CFLs and energy conservation.